COMMANDERS DIGEST

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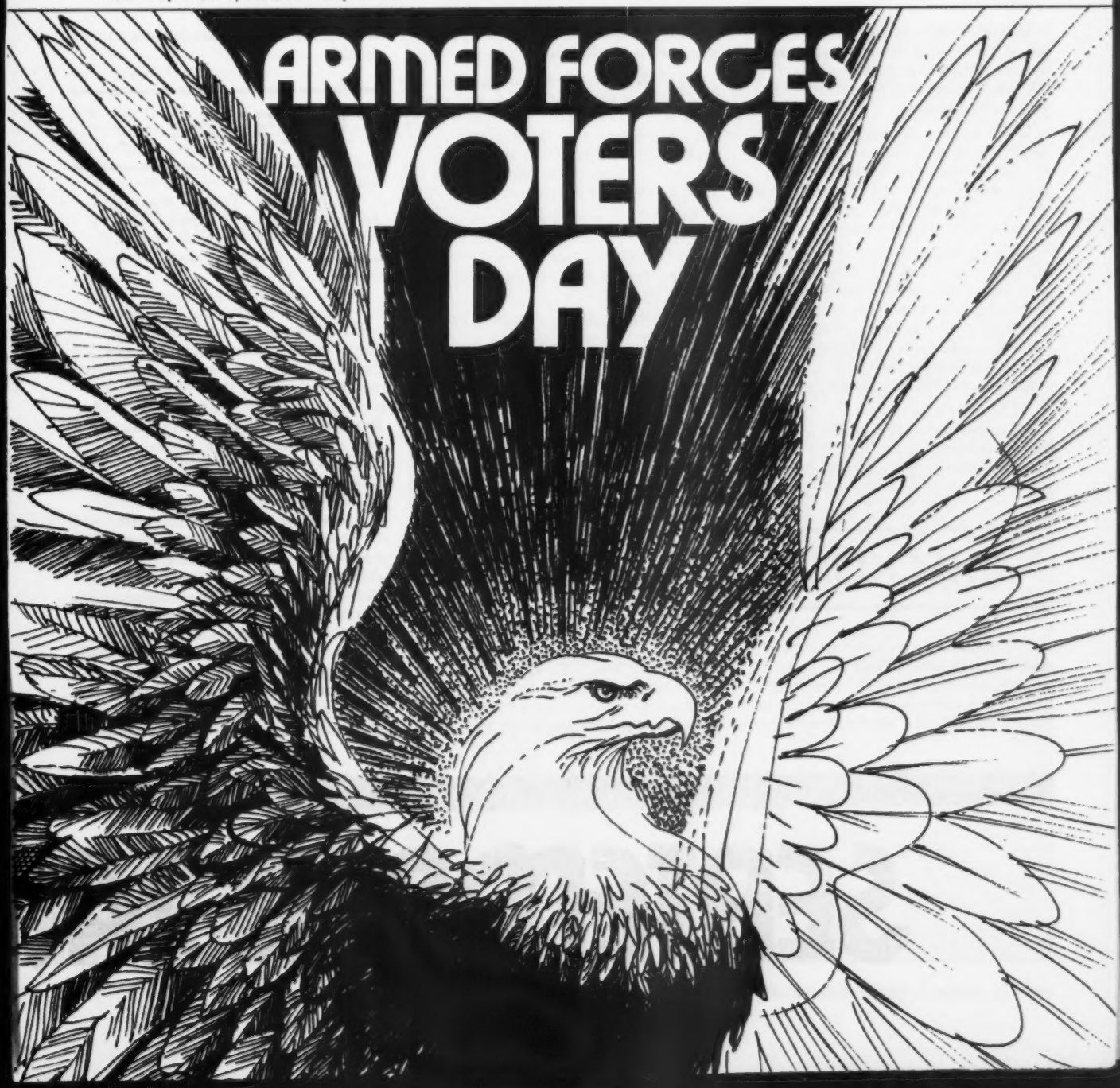

ARMED FORCES

One of the most important steps to take to ensure that you will receive an absentee ballot is to provide election officials at home with your correct, current mailing address.

Many election officials across the country have indicated to the Department of Defense that Armed Forces voters should notify them immediately when military addresses (or home mailing addresses) are changed.

This is particularly important if a Service voter moves to a different station, unit, or installation after voting by absentee process in a primary election. To obtain a general election ballot from the new location, the new address must be indicated on the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) requesting the ballot (Item 7).

When an address is changed, indicate to your election official in the "Remarks" section (Item (6)) of the FPCA, "Notification of Change of Address."

CHECKLIST

The checklist below has been developed to assist Armed Forces voters to meet their home States' absentee registration and voting requirements by mailing a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA—Standard Form 76) to appropriate election officials.

STEP I. Contact your voting officer or counselor, obtain an FPCA, and complete it by following the instructions in the *Voting Assistance Guide* (DoD GEN-6E). Be sure to type or print the information required so that it may be read by election officials.

STEP II. Comply with registration requirements if specified by State law. Refer to the State pages in the guide for absentee registration procedures prescribed by your State.

STEP III. Mail the completed FPCA as follows:

- To the appropriate election official indicated on the pertinent State page of the guide.
- Within the time period recommended by a State, but always far enough in advance of the election so that election officials can mail the ballot to you in time for it to be voted and returned to reach officials before the absentee voting deadline.

STEP IV. Vote the ballot in accordance with instructions which are generally included in or on the envelope with the ballot.

STEP V. Return the voted ballot to State election officials in time to be received before the absentee voting deadline. Refer to the appropriate State pages in the guide for each State's ballot deadline.

'TUESDAY . . .'

The traditional "Tuesday next after the first Monday in November"—set by Federal law as general election day in even-numbered years—falls on November 5, 1974.

On the Federal scene, candidates will be chosen to fill 34 seats in the Senate and 435 seats in the House of Representatives. In addition, the District of Columbia, the Territory of Guam, and the Territory of the Virgin Islands will each elect one Delegate to the House of Representatives. These officials, along with the members of the Senate whose terms do not expire this year, will constitute the 94th Congress which convenes January 3, 1975.

At the State and Territorial levels, 37 Governors will be chosen, along with other officials in the executive, judicial, and legislative branches of government. Numerous county and local officials will also be elected.

Absentee registration and voting procedures that should be followed to obtain a general election ballot are listed for each State, Territory, and the District of Columbia on pages 4 and 5. For additional details, Service voting officers

SEPTEMBER 24,

VOTERS DAY

or counselors should be contacted.

Particular attention should be paid to the absentee ballot deadlines listed for each jurisdiction, in order that sufficient time may be allowed for an interested voter to request, obtain, vote, and return his or her absentee ballot.

PRIMARIES

More than a third of those States that have scheduled primary elections in 1974, along with the District of Columbia, will conduct them in September or October.

Nevada and North Dakota will begin the September-October primaries by holding their elections September 3. Hawaii, the last State to hold a primary this year, will conduct its election October 5.

The remaining jurisdictions will hold September primaries as follows (date is shown in parentheses): Delaware (7); Arizona (10); Colorado (10); District of Columbia (10); Florida (10); Maryland (10); Massachusetts (10); Minnesota (10); New Hampshire (10); New York (10); Rhode Island (10); Utah (10); Vermont (10); Wisconsin (10); and Washington (17).

Absentee registration and voting procedures for each of the above-listed States and the District of Columbia will be found on pages 6, 7, and 8.

1974

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

ARMED FORCES VOTERS DAY

On November 5, approximately 140 million U.S. citizens will be eligible to cast their ballots in the general election to choose a variety of officials at Federal, State, and local levels. Among this electorate will be more than two million members of the Armed Forces -- the majority of whom will be absent from their home voting districts.

While active duty Service members generally have little chance to join their fellow citizens in person at the polls, they do have the right and opportunity to register and vote by the absentee process if and as they wish. A major purpose of the Federal Voting Assistance Program -- implemented by the Department of Defense -- is to ensure that this right and opportunity will be guaranteed to all eligible voters in uniform.

September 24 has been designated Armed Forces Voters Day. This is a time for eligible Service voters and their family members to focus attention on the general election and on prescribed procedures that will enable them to obtain absentee ballots if they wish to do so from a State, Territory, or the District of Columbia. Military Service voting officers and counselors are prepared to assist interested, eligible voters to exercise voluntarily this most important function of citizenship.

I urge each member of the Armed Forces who wishes to vote to contact his or her voting officer or counselor to determine procedures to obtain an absentee ballot. By allowing sufficient time to apply for a ballot, vote it, and return it to election officials in advance of election deadlines, the individual will be assured that his or her vote will count in the general election.

W. P. Clements, Jr.
Deputy

GENERAL ELECTION — 1974

Registration and Voting Information

The State, Territorial, and District of Columbia voting information given below applies only to Armed Forces members on active duty. All citations of "election day" refer to the general election on November 5, 1974. For additional details concerning your State, Territory, or the District of Columbia, see your voting officer or counselor.

STATE, TERRITORY OR DISTRICT	REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL	TO REGISTER ABSENTEE, SEND A COMPLETED FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION (FPCA) TO: (1) (See footnote)	TO REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT, SEND COMPLETED FPCA TO:	DEADLINE BY WHICH VOTED BALLOT MUST REACH ELECTION OFFICIALS
ALABAMA	Must register before absentee ballot can be sent (registration form must be completed). (2)	Board of Registrars, county of residence.	Register of the Circuit Court, county of residence (after registration is completed).	Not later than election day.
ALASKA	Must register before absentee ballot can be sent (registration form must be completed). (3)	Lieutenant Governor, Pouch AF, Juneau 99801	Lieutenant Governor, Pouch AF, Juneau 99801	Postmark on envelope returning ballot must not be later than date of election.
ARIZONA	Affidavit of Registration form will be mailed with absentee ballot.		County Recorder, county of residence.	By 6 p.m., election day.
ARKANSAS	Registration is not required.		County Clerk, county of residence.	By 7.30 p.m., election day.
CALIFORNIA	Registration form will be mailed with absentee ballot.		County Clerk, county of residence.	By 8 p.m., election day.
COLORADO	Registered when FPCA for absentee ballot is accepted.		County Clerk, county of residence.	By 7 p.m., election day.
CONNECTICUT	Registration form will be mailed with absentee ballot.		Town Clerk, place of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.
DELAWARE	Registration form will be mailed with absentee ballot.		Department of Elections, county of residence.	Before 12 noon of day before election.
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	Registered when FPCA for absentee ballot is accepted.		Board of Elections, District Building, Washington, DC 20004	By 8 p.m., election day.
FLORIDA	Must register before absentee ballot can be sent (registration form must be completed). (4)	Supervisor of Elections, county of residence.	Supervisor of Elections, county of residence.	By 7 p.m., election day.
GEORGIA	Must register before absentee ballot can be sent (registration form must be completed). (5)	Board of Registrars, county of residence.	Board of Registrars, county of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.
GUAM, Territory of	Registered when executed affidavit on ballot return envelope is accepted.		Election Commissioner, Agana, Guam 96910.	Before election day.
HAWAII	Registered when FPCA for absentee ballot is accepted.		County Clerk, county of residence, (City Clerk for residents of Honolulu).	Before polls are closed, election day.
IDAHO	Registered when FPCA for absentee ballot is accepted.		County Clerk, county of residence.	By 8 p.m., election day.
ILLINOIS	Registration is not required.		County Clerk, county of residence.	Not later than election day.
INDIANA	Registered when FPCA for absentee ballot is accepted.		Clerk of the Circuit Court, county of residence.	By 6 p.m., of day before election.
IOWA	Registered when executed affidavit on ballot return envelope is accepted.		County Auditor, county of residence.	By 8 p.m., election day.
KANSAS	Registration is not required.		County Election Officer, county of residence, or to Secretary of State, Topeka 66612.	Before polls are closed, election day.
KENTUCKY	Must register before absentee ballot can be sent (registration form must be completed). (4)	County Clerk, county of residence.	County Clerk, county of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.
LOUISIANA	Must register before absentee ballot can be sent (registration form must be completed). (4)	Registrar of Voters, parish of residence.	Clerk of the District Court, parish of residence (Civil Sheriff in Parish of Orleans).	In time to permit delivery of ballot to Commissioners of Election on election day.
MAINE	Registered when FPCA for absentee ballot is accepted.	Board of Registration or Registrar of Voters, city or town of residence.	Secretary of State, Augusta 04330, or Clerk of city or town of residence.	Before 3 p.m., election day.
MARYLAND	Registered when absentee ballot is cast.		Board of Supervisors of Elections, county of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.
MASSACHUSETTS	Temporarily registered when FPCA for absentee ballot is accepted.		City or Town Clerk, place of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.
MICHIGAN	Registration form will be mailed with absentee ballot.		City or Township Clerk, place of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.
MINNESOTA	Registration form will be		County Auditor, county of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.

MICHIGAN	Registration form will be mailed with absentee ballot.		County Auditor, county of	
MINNESOTA	Registration form will be mailed with absentee ballot.		City Registrar or County Registrar, place of residence.	Not later than day on which election returns are received and canvassed.
MISSISSIPPI	Must register before absentee ballot can be sent (registration form must be completed). (4)	City Registrar or County Registrar, place of residence.		
MISSOURI	Registration is not required.		Board of Election Commissioners or Clerk of the County Court, place of residence, to request a "War Ballot."	By 4 p.m., day before election.
MONTANA	Registered when FPCA for absentee ballot is accepted.		County, City, or Town Clerk, place of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.
NEBRASKA	Registration form will be mailed with absentee ballot.		County Clerk or Election Commissioner, county of residence.	By 10 a.m., second day after election day.
NEVADA	Must register before absentee ballot can be sent (registration form must be completed). (4)	Board of Registrars or County Clerk, place of residence.	Board of Registrars or County Clerk, place of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.
NEW HAMPSHIRE	Registered when an FPCA for absentee ballot is accepted.		Secretary of State, State House, Concord 03301.	Before polls are closed, election day.
NEW JERSEY	Registration is not required.		County Clerk, county of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.
NEW MEXICO	Temporarily registered when FPCA for absentee ballot is accepted.		County Clerk, county of residence.	By 7 p.m., election day.
NEW YORK	Registered when FPCA for absentee ballot is requested.		Division for Servicemen's Voting, Office of the Secretary of State, 162 Washington Ave., Albany 12225.	By 12 noon of day before election.
NORTH CAROLINA	Will be registered when FPCA is accepted.		Secretary of State, Raleigh 27602, or Chairman, County Board of Elections, county of residence.	Before 3 p.m., election day.
NORTH DAKOTA	Registration is not required.		County Auditor, county of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.
OHIO	Registration is not required.		Clerk of the County Board of Elections, county of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.
OKLAHOMA	Registration is not required.		Secretary of the County Election Board, county of residence.	By 7 p.m., election day.
OREGON	Registered when executed oath on absentee ballot return envelope is accepted.		County Clerk, county of residence, or to the Secretary of State, Salem 97301.	Before polls are closed, election day.
PENNSYLVANIA	Must register by completing registration forms prior to election.	County Board of Elections, county of residence.	County Board of Elections, county of residence.	By 5 p.m. of the first Friday preceding election day.
PUERTO RICO, Commonwealth of	PUERTO RICO will not hold any elections until 1976.			
RHODE ISLAND	Registration is not required.		Board of Canvassers and Registration, city or town of residence.	By 9 p.m., election day.
SOUTH CAROLINA	Must register before absentee ballot can be sent (registration form must be completed). (4)	Board of Registration, county of residence.	Board of Registration, county of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.
SOUTH DAKOTA	Registered when FPCA for absentee ballot is accepted.		County Auditor, county of residence, or City Auditor or Clerk of town or township.	Before polls are closed, election day.
TENNESSEE	Temporarily registered when FPCA for absentee ballot is accepted.		County Election Commission, county of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.
TEXAS	Temporarily registered when FPCA for absentee ballot is accepted.		County Clerk, county of residence.	By 1 p.m., election day.
UTAH	Registered when executed affidavit on absentee ballot return envelope is accepted.		County Clerk, county of residence.	Before 12 noon, day of official canvass after election.
VERMONT	Registered when executed affidavit on absentee ballot return envelope is accepted.		Town or City Clerk, place of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.
VIRGINIA	Registered when FPCA for absentee ballot is accepted.		General Registrar of city or county of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.
VIRGIN ISLANDS, Territory of	Registered when executed affidavit on absentee ballot return envelope is accepted.		Supervisor of Elections, No. 3, Crystal Gade, St. Thomas 00803.	Before polls are closed, election day.
WASHINGTON	Temporarily registered when executed affidavit on absentee ballot return envelope is returned.		Secretary of State, Olympia 98504.	Not later than 15 days after election day.
WEST VIRGINIA	Must register before absentee ballot can be sent (registration form must be completed). (4)	Clerk of the County Court, county of residence.	Clerk of the Circuit Court, county of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.
WISCONSIN	Registration is not required.		City, Town, or Village Clerk, place of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.
WYOMING	Temporarily registered when executed affidavit on absentee ballot return envelope is accepted.		County Clerk, county of residence.	Before polls are closed, election day.

(1) If no address is listed, mail FPCA to same address listed under "requesting an absentee ballot" column.
(2) Although Alabama does not specify a deadline for registration, sufficient time should be allowed to complete registration and to obtain, vote, and return an absentee ballot prior to voting deadline.
(3) Application for registration must be postmarked at least 30 days before election.
(4) Registration must be completed prior to 30 days before election; in Florida, prior to 45 days before election.
(5) Registration must be completed prior to 50 days before election.

September and October

Primary Elections — 1974

STATE	DATE	ABSENTEE REGISTRATION RULES FOR ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS	TO REQUEST BALLOT, SEND COMPLETED FPCA* TO:	DATE BY WHICH BALLOT MUST REACH OFFICIAL
NEVADA	Sept. 3	Registration is required, and must be completed before an absentee ballot will be mailed. Send completed FPCA to the Board of Registrars or County Clerk, county of residence, requesting Affidavit of Registration form. Return completed form to reach the Board prior to 30 days before the election. A separate FPCA must be submitted to obtain an absentee ballot.	Board of Registrars or County Clerk, county of residence.	Before polls close on election day.
NORTH DAKOTA	Sept. 3	Registration is not required.	County Auditor, county of residence.	Before polls close on election day.
DELAWARE	Sept. 7	Registration is required and may be requested when applying for absentee ballot. Send completed FPCA to the Department of Elections, county of residence, entering in Item (6), "Request registration form." Mail FPCA in time to be received by officials prior to 30 days before an election. An absentee registration affidavit will be sent to you with an absentee ballot. Complete affidavit and return with voted ballot.	Department of Elections, county of residence.	Before 12 noon on day before election.
ARIZONA	Sept. 10	Registration is required and may be requested when applying for an absentee ballot. Send completed FPCA to the County Recorder, county of residence, entering in Item (6), "Request registration form." An affidavit of registration form will be sent to you with an absentee ballot. Completed affidavit must be returned to reach the Recorder prior to five days before the election.	County Recorder, county of residence.	By 6 p.m. of election day.
COLORADO	Sept. 10	Registration is required and may be requested when applying for an absentee ballot. The County Clerk, county of residence (or Election Commissioner, if applicant is a resident of Denver), will register an applicant when an FPCA requesting an absentee ballot is received (Item (6) should contain the entry, "Request registration").	County Clerk, county of residence (or Election Commissioner, if resident of Denver), not earlier than 90 days before the election.	By 7 p.m. of election day.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	Sept. 10	Registration is required and may be requested when applying for an absentee ballot. The D.C. Board of Elections will permanently register persons who submit an FPCA requesting an absentee ballot. An FPCA may be received anytime except during the 30 days prior to an election.	D.C. Board of Elections, District Building, Washington, DC 20004.	By 8 p.m. (D.C. time) of election day.
FLORIDA	Sept. 10	Registration is required and must be completed before an absentee ballot will be mailed. To register, send a completed FPCA to the Supervisor of Elections, county of residence. Upon receipt of an FPCA requesting an absentee ballot, the Supervisor will mail the applicant a registration application. An applicant will be registered only if the completed registration application is received by the election official prior to 45 days before an election.	Supervisor of Elections, county of residence.	By 7 p.m. of election day.
MARYLAND	Sept. 10	Registration is required and is accomplished by casting an absentee ballot.	Board of Supervisors of Elections, county of residence. If you voted in the preceding election, include your residence in Item (6) of FPCA with the notation, "Preceding election address."	Before polls close on election day.
MASSACHUSETTS	Sept. 10	Permanent registration may be acquired only by registering in person before the City or Town Clerk, place of residence. However, submission of a completed FPCA to the City or Town Clerk will obtain an absentee ballot.	City or Town Clerk, place of residence.	Before polls close on election day.
MINNESOTA	Sept. 10	Registration is required and may be requested when applying for an absentee ballot. Send a completed FPCA to County Auditor, county of residence, entering in Item (6), "Request voter registration form." This form will be mailed to applicant with absentee ballot. The completed and witnessed form must be returned to the Auditor with the voted ballot.	County Auditor, county of residence.	Before polls close on election day.
NEW HAMPSHIRE	Sept. 10	Registration is required and is accomplished when the Board of Supervisors of the Checklist, town or city of residence, enters a voter's name on the town or city checklist. This is done automatically when an applicant's completed FPCA is received from the Secretary of State by the Board and is accepted.	Secretary of State, State House, Concord, NH 03301.	Before polls close on election day.

NEW YORK	Sept. 10	Registration is required and is effected when an FPCA or other application for military (absentee) ballot is accepted by the Division for Servicemen's Voting.	Division for Servicemen's Voting, Office of the Secretary of State, 162 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12225.	By 12 noon of the day before election.
RHODE ISLAND	Sept. 10	Registration is not required.	Board of Canvassers and Registration, place of residence, in time to be received prior to 5 p.m. of the 21st day before election.	By 9 p.m. of election day.
UTAH	Sept. 10	Registration is required. Persons will be registered when they apply for an absentee ballot and when the executed certificate on the absentee ballot envelope is accepted by election officials.	County Clerk, county of residence.	Before 12 noon of the day of the official canvass following election.
VERMONT	Sept. 10	Permanent registration, which is effected by entering names of voters on town or city checklists, is not required. An applicant may execute necessary oaths when executing the affidavit on the back of the ballot envelope. When the Board of Civil Authority accepts the document, the applicant's name will be placed on the checklist.	Town or City Clerk, place of residence.	Before polls close on election day.
WISCONSIN	Sept. 10	Registration is not required for Service members.	City, Town, or Village Clerk, place of residence (City Board of Election Commissioners in Milwaukee).	Before polls close on election day.
WASHINGTON	Sept. 17	Permanent registration may be acquired only by registering in person before the City Clerk or County Auditor, place of residence. An applicant will be granted temporary registration (only for the election concerned) by signing the affidavit on the pre-addressed ballot return envelope which will be sent with an absentee ballot.	Secretary of State, Olympia, WA 98504.	Ballots must be dated not later than election day and must reach officials not later than 10 days after election.
HAWAII	Oct. 5	Registration is required and an applicant will be registered when a completed FPCA is accepted by election officials.	County Clerk, county of residence (City Clerk for residents of Honolulu).	Before polls close on election day.

* Federal Post Card Application (FPCA—Standard Form 76).

COMMANDERS DIGEST

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